

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ACCRA 03081 150748Z

53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-06 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 /066 W

----- 029781

R 141643Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7523

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ACCRA 3081

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PROP GH XH

SUBJ: GHANA: EAST EUROPEAN CELEBRATION 30TH VE DAY

REF: STATE 69945

1. USSR AND FELLOW EAST EUROPEANS CELEBRATED "30TH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY OVER HITLERITE FASCISM" IN GHANA MAY 8-9 (WITH FILM SHOWS THROUGH FOLLOWING WEEK) WITH GREAT HOOP-LA BUT NOTHING DIRECTLY OFFENSIVE TO WESTERN WWII ALLIES OF DEFEATED POWERS. EMPHASIS NATURALLY WAS ON SOVIET AND OTHER EASTERN COUNTRIES' SACRIFICES AND DECISIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, WITH PERFUNCTORY ACKNOWLEDGMENT WESTERN PARTICIPATION IN WAR. EMPHASIS ALSO PLACED ON SIGNIFICANCE OF VICTORY BY SOVIET ARMS FOR POST-WWII LIBERATION AND REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES AROUND WORLD.

2. SOVIET AMBASSADOR FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN ALL PUBLIC AFFAIRS, EVEN THOSE SPONSORED BY OTHER EAST EUROPEAN EMBASSIES. OTHERS MOST ACTIVE IN OBSERVANCES WERE CZECH AMBASSADOR AND GDR AMBASSADOR.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ACCRA 03081 150748Z

3. PRINCIPAL DIPLOMATIC FUNCTIONS WERE LARGE, WELL-PUBLICIZED

CZECH NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION (HELD MAY 8) AND SOVIET RECEPTION MAY 9. GHANAIAAN ATTENDANCE AT LATTER ONLY MODERATE, WITH TWO COMMISSIONERS (MINISTERS) ATTENDING. LOCAL GHANA-GDR AND GHANA-USSR FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES, ALONG WITH LOCAL FRONT-ORGANIZATION GHANA PEACE AND SOLIDARITY COUNCIL, SPONSORED CELEBRATORY MEETING AT ACCRA'S STATE HOUSE MAY 9, AT WHICH FRIENDLY SPEECH GIVEN BY CHIEF DEFENCE STAFF AND COMMISSIONER FOR NATIONAL REDEMPTION COUNCIL AFFAIRS (READ SECURITY), MAJGEN L.A. OKAI. SO FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, NONE OF WESTERN EMBASSIES PRESENT. FRENCH AND BRITISH DECLINED; WE NEVER RECEIVED INVITATION.

4. POLES, BULGARIANS, HUNGARIANS, EAST GERMANS, CZECHS, AND SOVIETS ALL PURCHASED SPACE LOCAL GOVERNMENT-OWNED PAPERS TO RUN LENGTHY COMMEMORATIVE ARTICLES. HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR FRONTED AT MAY 12 OPENING OF WEEK-LONG FILM SERIES OF WAR FILMS AT ACCRA ARTS COUNCIL. ROMANIANS PARTICIPATED IN ONE PRESS CONFERENCE FOCUSED ON SOCIALIST ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING GHANA, BUT OTHERWISE DRAGGED FEET.

5. YUGOSLAVS SAT ON THEIR HANDS, RAN THEIR OWN PRESS SUPPLEMENT DEVOTED TO TITO AND PARTISAN STRUGGLE, ALTHOUGH AMBASSADOR, AFTER SOME WAFFLING, DID ATTEND SOVIET RECEPTION.

6. SCARCELY A MENTION OF WAR AGAINST JAPAN. CHINESE ATTENDED EVENTS POLITELY, SAID NOTHING. NEITHER WEST GERMANS NOR JAPANESE ATTENDED, BOTH EMBASSIES REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS FORBADE THEM. FRENCH AMBASSADOR ATTENDED BUT RATHER NOISILY MENTIONED FRENCH INVOLVEMENT AND WAR WITH JAPAN. HE AND BRITISH HICOMMER (WHO WAS OUT OF ACCRA) TOOK NUMEROUS OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO CHIDE SOVIET AMBASSADOR, BUT BRITS DID ATTEND RECEPTION.

7. GHANAIAANS GENERALLY SEEMED BEMUSED BY WHOLE THING. WHICH SEEMED SOMEWHAT EXCESSIVE TO MOST, GIVEN DISTANCE IN TIME AND AWARENESS OF WWII EUROPEAN EVENTS TO GHANAIAANS, AT LEAST SOME OF WHOM BELIEVE WWII TOOK PLACE IN BURMA, WHERE GOLD COAST TROOPS FOUGHT.
BLACK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ACCRA03081
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750171-0003
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750551/aaaabtsz.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 69945
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GHANA: EAST EUROPEAN CELEBRATION 30TH VE DAY
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, GH, XH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006